

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/S: DANDERSON:GB
APPROVED BY MR. ANDERSON
WHITEHOUSE: VOORDE/GATES

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 160223

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT -- ASPECTS OF THE BERLIN
SCHEDULE

REF: US BERLIN 1448
US BERLIN 1479

1. FOLLOWING ARE THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED AT A MEETING ON
JUNE 22 BETWEEN WHITE HOUSE, NSC AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES
ON CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE BERLIN SCHEDULE.

2. WE WOULD WANT TO HAVE ABOUT ONE THOUSAND BERLINERS PRE-
SENT AT THE CONGRESS HALL FOR THE TOWN MEETING EVENT.
THERE WOULD BE ROOM, IN ADDITION, FOR US AND GERMAN
PRESS POOLS. THE GREAT BULK OF THE PRESS WOULD BE LOCATED
IN THE ADJOINING ROOMS WHERE THEY WOULD WATCH THE EVENT
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ON CLOSED-CIRCUIT TV.

3. WE ARE PREPARED TO HAVE THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE GROUP
ATTEND THE TOWN MEETING. HOWEVER, WE WISH TO HAVE THE
NAMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF THE GROUP AND SOME ASSURANCE
THAT IT IS A REPRESENTATIVE GROUP OF BERLINERS.

4. WE ALSO WANT SOME ASSURANCE THAT THE GUEST LISTS FOR THE TOWN MEETING AND AIRLIFT MEMORIAL EVENT INCLUDE ORDINARY CITIZENS AND NOT ONLY IMPORTANT FIGURES AND OFFICIALS.

5. WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE GUEST LIST OF THE TOWN MEETING EVENT FOR REVIEW BEFORE INVITATIONS GO OUT. WE ALSO WANT TO REVIEW THE WORDING OF THE INVITATION BEFORE IT IS SENT OUT.

6. WE WANT THE AMERICAN GROUP OF ONE THOUSAND OR THEREABOUTS TO BE AT THE AIRLIFT MEMORIAL EVENT AND NOT REPEAT NOT AT TEMPELHOF. IT SEEMS TO US THAT THERE IS SUFFICIENT SPACE AT THE MEMORIAL TO ACCOMMODATE ABOUT 5,000 GERMANS PLUS THE 1000 AMERICANS. WE ALSO WOULD LIKE IT MADE CLEAR TO THE BERLIN PUBLIC THAT IT IS WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS EVENT, SO THAT SEVERAL THOUSAND MORE COULD BE PRESENT AROUND THE SO-CALLED "INNER RING" OF INDIVIDUAL INVITEES.

7. AS TO THE HANDLING OF THE TOWN MEETING, SEVERAL POINTS HAVE BEEN DECIDED: THERE WILL BE NO REPEAT NO MODERATOR; THE GOVERNING MAYOR WILL INTRODUCE THE PRESIDENT BRIEFLY, THE PRESIDENT WILL MAKE HIS OPENING STATEMENT AND THEN TAKE QUESTIONS IN THE TRADITIONAL OPEN WAY WHEREBY HE RECOGNIZES QUESTIONERS PERSONALLY; HE
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WILL USE SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION FACILITY IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION, AND SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETING WILL BE USED TO COMMUNICATE HIS ANSWER. (THE PRESIDENT WILL ALSO HAVE HIS OPENING STATEMENT TRANSLATED SIMULTANEOUSLY).

8. THE IDEA IS TO PRESERVE THE SPONTANEITY AND OPENNESS OF THE CLASSICAL TOWN MEETING. ONE THOUGHT WE HAVE HAD TO TRY TO CUT DOWN THE LENGTH OF QUESTIONS WOULD BE FOR THE AUDIENCE TO BE GIVEN CARDS UPON ARRIVAL AT THE CONGRESS HALL AND THEN INFORMED PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL THAT THOSE WHO WISH TO ASK QUESTIONS SHOULD WRITE THEM ON THE CARDS: THEN, IF THEY ARE RECOGNIZED BY THE PRESIDENT, THEY CAN READ THE (HOPEFULLY) BRIEF QUESTIONS FROM THE CARD. THE PERSON WHO OUTLINES THE USE OF THE CARD WILL ALSO STRESS THE NEED FOR BREVITY.

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